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EXAMINER

HOSSAIN, FARZANA E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/806,651

Applicant(s)

UENAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Farzana E. Hossain

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,7,8,10,12,13,15,16,18 and 24-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,2,7,8,10,12,13,15,16,18 and 24-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is in responsive to communications filed on 2/21/2007. Claims 1, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29 are amended. Claims 2, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 27 are previously presented. Claims 3-6, 9, 11, 14, 17, 19-23 are cancelled. Claims 16, 18 are original.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 02/21/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Harada does not disclose "receiving a selection of a time frame, and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in said plurality of channels corresponding to said selected time frame, the video of the each channel." Applicant observes that the EPG information includes a "representative picture" And displaying representative pictures in each channel in an EPG (col 37, lines 3-9).

In response to the argument, Harada discloses that a user can select the cell layout information as shown in Figure 7 which includes selecting a time frame or number of hours or 8X6 layout information is a time frame of six hours. Microsoft Press 3rd edition Computer Dictionary defines video as of or pertaining to the visual component of a television signal and video refers to the rendering of text and graphics

images on displays. The applicant has not defined video to be motion video.

Therefore, Harada discloses displaying video or representative picture (Column 37, lines 3-9, Figure 4), receiving a selection of a time frame (Figure 7), and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in the plurality of channels corresponding to the selected time frame, the video of the each channel (Figures 8-10).

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicants argue that Schein does not disclose "receiving a selection of a time frame, and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in said plurality of channels corresponding to said selected time frame, the video of the each channel" (Page 11). The applicant further argues that Schein discloses displaying EPG information as both text and video in Figure 11, and Page 8, paragraph 0137 and that the single broadcast video.

In response to the arguments, Schein is not used for the newly amended limitations. Schein discloses that EPG information is received and as is well known in the art includes various descriptors (Page 5, Channel Data Table; paragraphs 0079-0082).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 24, 25, 28, 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Harada et al (US 6,246,442 and hereafter referred to as "Harada")

Regarding Claim 1, Harada discloses an electronic program guide (EPG) information display method (Figures 8-10) for selectively displaying EPG information, in an EPG on a display, the method comprising: providing EPG information comprising text contents and video for one or more channels over one or more time frames (Figures 4, 8-10, Column 37, lines 3-9), assigning priorities to text contents of the EPG program; in accordance with a zoom command instructing a continuous amount of zoom magnification or a first, second, third or fourth detail degree (Figure 5), deciding to display in the EPG on the display a set of the EPG information for a plurality of channels over a plurality of time frames larger or smaller in number than channels or time frames displayed immediately before the zoom command is provided is displayed (Figure 7), detail information includes in the EPG in accordance with the magnification of the zoom command is selectively displayed (Figures 2 and 3); based on an order of the assigned priorities and based on the zoom magnification, selecting which of the text contents of the set of EPG information are to be displayed in the EPG for each of the plurality of channels over the plurality of time frames to provide a maximum amount of text information that may be read by a viewer (Figure 5, Figures 8-10), selectively displaying

in the EPG information the selected text contents (Figure 5, Figures 8-10), receiving a selection of a time frame (Figure 7), and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in the plurality of channels corresponding to the selected time frame, the video of the each channel (Figures 8-10).

Regarding Claim 25, Harada discloses a method of displaying an EPG on a display comprising the steps of: storing EPG data in a plurality of program information cells (Figure 3, 12, 15), the EPG data including video image data and text contents of EPG information (Figure 4, Figure 5); assigning priorities to the text contents of the EPG information (Figure 4, Figure 5); based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom level of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed; selecting a first predetermined number of cells for EPG display based on the zoom level of the EPG; displaying, on the EPG (Figures 8-10), the video image data stored and text contents selected for each cell (Figures 8-10); receiving a selection of a time frame (Figure 7), and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in the plurality of channels corresponding to the selected time frame, the video of the each channel (Figures 8-10), select one of magnifying the EPG by modifying the zoom level by selecting a second predetermined number of cells on the EPG, the second predetermined number being of less magnitude than the first predetermined number being of less magnitude than the first predetermined number (Figure 5, 8-10), and displaying the video image stored and the text contents selected for the cells in the second predetermined number of cells; and reducing the EPG by modifying the zoom level by selecting a third predetermined

number of cells on the EPG, the third predetermined number being of greater magnitude than the first predetermined number, and displaying the video image data stored and the text contents selected for the cells in the third predetermined number of cells (Figures 5, 8-10).

Regarding Claim 7, Harada discloses all the limitations of Claim 1. Harada discloses that for EPG information of each program displayed on the screen, an amount of EPG information to be displayed is changed according to a display area (Figure 5).

Regarding Claim 8, Harada discloses all the limitations of Claim 1. Harada discloses that items of the EPG information displayed in each area in which the EPG information is to be displayed are decided based on a size of the area, the number of pixels when the area is displayed or the number of letters can be shown in the area (Figures 13-15). Harada discloses includes displaying an EPG based on the zoom magnification or detail degree and also that the EPG information can also display based on blank spaces or the number of letters that can be shown (Figures 13-16).

Regarding Claim 10, Harada discloses all the limitations of Claim 1. Harada discloses that the zoom command stepwisely changes a size from the channel and the time frame displayed (Figure 8) before the zoom command is provided to a new channel and a time frame displayed after the zoom command is provided (Figure 9).

Regarding Claim 24, Harada discloses all the limitations of Claim 1, 7, 8, or 10. Harada discloses a recording medium (Figure 69, 273) being able to be read by a computer or computer system (Figure 69, 270) that stores a program to cause a computer to perform some of the functions of the EPG information display method.

Regarding Claims 28 and 29, Harada discloses all the limitations of Claims 1 and 25 respectively. Harada discloses text contents include title, genre, channel, and program detail information (Figure 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1, 7, 8, 12, 24-26, 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout et al (US 6,405,371 and hereafter referred to as "Oosterhout") in view of Davis et al (US 5,559,548 and hereafter referred to as "Davis").

Regarding Claim 1, Oosterhout discloses an EPG information display method for selectively displaying electronic program guide in an EPG on a display (Figures 4-8), text contents and video for one or more channels over one or more time frames (Figure 7). Oosterhout discloses that the EPG can display a plurality of channels over a plurality of time frames (Figure 7, 41). Oosterhout discloses in accordance with a zoom command instructing a continuous amount of zoom magnification, deciding to display in the EPG on the display a set of the EPG information for a plurality of channels over time frames (Figure 8, 41) larger or smaller in number than a number of channels and time

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frames displayed immediately before the zoom command is provided, wherein the zoom command zooms in or out the display with respect to a center of the EPG information to be displayed or with the zoom command the EPG zooms in or out to more channels with respect to the center of the EPG or quadrant chosen (Figures 4-8, 43). Oosterhout discloses the EPG data of programs include plurality of descriptors including schedules dates and times, titles, types, and parental ratings (Column 2, lines 41-45) and that relevant EPG data including title is displayed or assigning priorities to the text contents of the EPG information (Column 4, lines 62-67). Oosterhout discloses selectively displaying, in the EPG the selected text contents or only relevant information (Column 4, lines 62-67), receiving a selection of a time frame (Figure 7, 41, Column 4, lines 37-67), and displaying in the EPG, for each channel in the plurality of channels corresponding to the selected time frame, the video of the each channel (Figure 7). Oosterhout is silent on based on an order of the assigned priorities and based on the zoom magnification, selecting which of the text contents of the set of EPG information are to be displayed in the EPG for each of the plurality of channels over the plurality of time frames to provide a maximum amount of text information that may be read by a viewer.

In analogous art, Davis discloses storing EPG information for a plurality of program information cells (Figure 12, 210, Column 20, lines 23-26), assigning priorities or displaying relevant information such as title has first priority and additional supplemental information is displayed based on space (Figures 10A, 10B), based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom magnification of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are

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to be displayed or based on the relevance of text contents and or sufficient space available determined by the grid size of the EPG (Figure 6, Column 9, lines 50-67), selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed (Figures 10A, 10B). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Oosterhout to include an order of the assigned priorities and based on the zoom magnification, selecting which of the text contents of the set of EPG information are to be displayed in the EPG for each of the plurality of channels over the plurality of time frames to provide a maximum amount of text information that may be read by a viewer or based on the relevance of text contents and sufficient space available determined by the grid size of the EPG (Figure 6, Column 9, lines 50-67), selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed (Figures 10A, 10B) as disclosed by Davis in order to make guides more useful to so that EPGs become more readable and aesthetically pleasing (Column 2, lines 49-69) as disclosed by Davis.

Regarding Claim 25, Oosterhout discloses a method for selectively displaying EPG information in an EPG on a display (Figures 4-8) comprising the steps of:

(a) storing EPG information in a plurality of program information cells, the EPG information including video data and text content over one or more channels over one or more time frames (Figure 7, Column 2, lines 42-45, Column 3, lines 21-24). Oosterhout discloses the EPG data of programs include plurality of descriptors including schedules

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dates and times, titles, types, and parental ratings (Column 2, lines 41-45) and that relevant EPG data including title is displayed or (b) assigning priorities to the text contents of the EPG information (Column 4, lines 62-67) and

(d) selecting a first predetermined number of cells for EPG display based on the zoom level of the-EPG (Figure 7, Figure 8);

(e) displaying, on the EPG, the text contents selected in step (c) for each cell selected in step (d) (Figure 7);

(f) receiving a selection of a time frame (Figures 4-8, 41);

(g) displaying on the EPG, for each cell corresponding to the selected time frame received in step (f), the video data of the each cell (Figure 7); and

(h) selecting one of: (i) magnifying the EPG by modifying the zoom level by selecting a second predetermined number of cells on the EPG, the second predetermined number being of less magnitude than the first predetermined number, and displaying the video image data stored in step (a) and the text contents selected in step (c) for the cells in the second predetermined number of cells, and (ii) reducing the EPG by modifying the zoom level by selecting a third predetermined number of cells on the EPG, the third predetermined number being of greater magnitude than the first predetermined number, and displaying the video image data stored in step (a) and the text contents selected in step (c) for the cells in the third predetermined number of cells or selecting a first predetermined number of cells (Figure 4, Figure 8, Column 5, lines 9-20) for EPG display, magnifying the EPG by modifying the zoom level by selecting a third predetermined number of cells on the EPG, the

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second number being of less magnitude and displaying the video image data for the cells, and text contents of the EPG information for the cells in the second predetermined number of cells (Figures 4, 8). Oosterhout discloses zooming the display of the EPG and causing the EPG is too small for the viewer to read information (Figure 8, Column 5, lines 16-20). Oosterhout is silent on based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom level of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed.

In analogous art, Davis discloses storing EPG information for a plurality of program information cells (Figure 12, 210, Column 20, lines 23-26), assigning priorities or displaying relevant information such as title has first priority and additional supplemental information is displayed based on space (Figures 10A, 10B), based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom level of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed or based on the relevance of text contents and or sufficient space available determined by the grid size of the EPG (Figure 6, Column 9, lines 50-67), selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed (Figures 10A, 10B). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Oosterhout to include based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom level of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed or based on the relevance of text contents and sufficient space available determined by the grid size of the EPG (Figure

6, Column 9, lines 50-67), selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed (Figures 10A, 10B) as disclosed by Davis in order to make guides more useful to so that EPGs become more readable and aesthetically pleasing (Column 2, lines 49-69) as disclosed by Davis.

Regarding Claim 7, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses the EPG information to be displayed for each channel on the display (Figure 7); an amount of EPG information is displayed is changed according to a size of an area on the display in which the EPG information is displayed (Figure 8).

Regarding Claims 8, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses the EPG information to be displayed for each channel on the display (Figures 7, 8); an amount of EPG information is displayed is changed according to a size of an area on the display in which the EPG information is displayed or relevant information is displayed for the zoomed in EPG and zoomed out EPG has cells too small to recognize the EPG (Figures 7, 8, Column 4, lines 62-67). Davis discloses based on an order of the assigned priorities and a zoom level of the EPG, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed or based on the relevance of text contents and or sufficient space available determined by the grid size of the EPG (Figure 6, Column 9, lines 50-67), selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed and determining in what order the text contents are to be displayed (Figures 10A, 10B). Davis discloses that text contents and/or EPG information for each channel are to be displayed in each area in which the EPG information is to be displayed are decide based on a size of the area, a

number of pixels when the area is displayed or the number of letters can be shown in the area (Figures 5b, 5c, 7b, 10A).

Regarding Claim 12, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses an EPG operation function mode is a search mode when an area in which the EPG information of a program is displayed is selected and specified and areas of programs associated with the program are shown in different color or brightness (Figures 4-6, 42, Column 3, lines 66-67, Column 4, lines 1-35, Column 1, lines 57-67).

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claims 1, 7, 8 or 12 respectively. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

Regarding Claim 26, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 25. Oosterhout discloses storing broadcasting channel number and broadcasting time for each of the plurality of cells (Figure 1, 74, 76, Column 2, lines 42-45, Column 3, lines 21-24). Oosterhout discloses storing video image data for each cell including currently broadcasting video corresponding to a channel and the current time (Column 2, lines 42-67), the selecting further based upon each of the predetermined number of cells (Column 2, lines 46-67, Figures 4-7), each have a similar broadcasting time (Figures 4-

8), and text contents displayed in step (e) are arranged in a tunable sequence of broadcasting channel numbers (Column 2, lines 37-45, Figure 7).

Regarding Claims 28 and 29, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claims 1 and 25 respectively. Oosterhout disclose text content include title, channel (Column 2, lines 41-45). Davis discloses text contents include title, channel, genre or category, and program detail information or descriptive information (Column 17, lines 43- 58).

8. Claims 2, 24, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout in view of Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Young et al (US 5,949,954 and hereafter referred to as "Young").

Regarding Claim 2, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses that EPG information is displayed and zoom magnification (Figures 4-8). Oosterhout and Davis do not teach that the program has to be on the air in order to be displayed. Young discloses that the predetermined channel and time frame are in a scope where a decision is made with reference to a channel and a time of program to be on the air being set in display mean in order to display the EPG information (Figures 2 and 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the combination predetermined channel and time frame are in a scope where a decision is made with reference to a channel and a time of program to be on the air being set in display mean in order to display the EPG information (Figures 2 and 3) as taught by Young in order to allow users a convenient

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way to access television program listings (Column 1, lines 15-27) as disclosed by Young.

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout, Davis and Young disclose all the limitations of Claim 2. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

Regarding Claim 27, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout and Davis are silent on receiving a selection of an area in which EPG information of a program that has already been recorded is displayed. Young discloses by selecting an area in which the EPG information of a program that has already been recorded is displayed (Figure 2). Young discloses that if the "What's On Tape" feature is selected a recorded program can be selected from this directory and reproduced or played (Figure 13). It is necessarily included that if a recorded program is displayed on the EPG (Figure 3) and selection is received of an area of the EPG information that reproduction of the program corresponding to the selected area is started. Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to select an area of the EPG with recorded programs displayed and reproducing the programs (Figure 13) as taught by Young in order to allow users a convenient way to access television program listings including recorded programs (Column 1, lines 15-27) as disclosed by Young.

9. Claims 10, 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout in view of Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Matthews, III (US 5,815,145 and hereafter referred to as "Matthews").

Regarding Claim 10, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses changing size of channels displayed for new channels after zoom command (Figure 4, Figure 8). Oosterhout and Davis are silent on the zooming stepwisely changes size and a new time displayed based on EPG information. Matthews discloses contents of the EPG information, the contents including title, genre, broadcasting mode or closed captioning, channel, and program detail information (Column 7, lines 43-67, Column 8, lines 1-7, 28-37). Matthews discloses displaying EPG information, as both text and video, for a plurality of channels and time frames. Matthews discloses displaying, on the display, currently broadcast video of a channel currently selected for display simultaneously with the EPG information (Figure 4, Column 4, lines 56-61). Matthews discloses that the zoom command stepwisely changes a size from the channel and the time frame displayed (Figure 6) before the zoom command is provided to new time frames displayed after the zoom command is provided (Figure 4 and Figure 6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include the zoom command stepwisely changes a size from the channel and the time frame displayed (Figure 6) before the zoom command is provided to new time frames displayed after the zoom command is provided (Figure 4 and Figure 6) as taught by

Matthews in order to improve on previous program guides which only provide inadequate program information (Column 1, lines 61-67) as disclosed by Matthews by providing the most information to a viewer of television to conveniently make the best choice for his interests.

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout, Davis and Matthews disclose all the limitations of Claim 10. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

10. Claims 13, 15, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout in view of Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lemmons et al (US 5,880,768 and hereafter referred to as "Lemmons").

Regarding Claim 13, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 12. Oosterhout discloses an EPG operation function mode is a search mode when an area in which the EPG information of a program is displayed is selected and specified and areas of programs associated with the program are shown in different color or brightness (Figures 4-6, 42, Column 3, lines 66-67, Column 4, lines 1-35, Column 1, lines 57-67). Oosterhout and Davis are silent on a cursor that changes color. Lemmons discloses that an EPG operation function mode is a search mode when an area in which the EPG information of a program is displayed is selected and specified

and areas of programs associated with the program are shown in different color or brightness (Figure 7 and Column 14, lines 52-64). Lemmons discloses that under a condition where the EPG operation function mode is the search mode (Figure 3, 116), a cursor for selecting and specifying an area corresponding to a search result selectively moves among parts of the areas in which EPG information is displayed and areas are shown in the different color or highlighted (Column 13, lines 53-65). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include a condition where the EPG operation function mode is the search mode (Figure 3, 116), a cursor for selecting and specifying an area corresponding to a search result selectively moves among parts of the areas in which EPG information is displayed which area are shown in the different color or highlighted (Column 13, lines 53-65) as taught by Lemmons in order to provide a convenient EPG and allow the viewer or user to locate programs of interest (Column 1, lines 5-17).

Regarding Claim 15, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout discloses an EPG operation function mode is a search mode when an area in which the EPG information of a program is displayed is selected (Figures 4-6, 42, Column 3, lines 66-67, Column 4, lines 1-35, Column 1, lines 57-67). Oosterhout and Davis are silent on the display of search results of only programs fulfilling search criterion. Lemmons displays a search mode where EPG information is displayed in a manner of search results, where only programs of the channels fulfilling the search criterion are displayed (Figure 7). Lemmons displays the programs in a fashion where the channels are in alphabetical order (i.e. HBO, Max, REQ, SHO) (Figure 7). It would

have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify Lemmons to display the results in a manner where they display the channel axis or so as to be close to one another in a direction of a channel axis in order to provide a different viewing of the search results. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include a search mode to display the search results in a close manner (Figure 7) as taught by Lemmons in order to provide a convenient EPG and allow the viewer or user to locate programs of interest (Column 1, lines 5-17).

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout, Davis and Lemmons disclose all the limitations of Claims 13 or 15. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

11. Claims 16, 24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout in view of Davis as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Schein et al (US 2002/0129366 and hereafter referred to as "Schein").

Regarding Claim 16, Oosterhout and Davis disclose all the limitations of Claim 1. Oosterhout and Davis are silent on a recorder. Schein discloses displaying EPG information (Figure 1, Figure 11), as both text and video over a plurality of channels and plurality of time frames (Figure 11, Page 8, paragraph 0137) assigning priorities to text contents of the EPG information or displaying the title of the program in the grid (Figure

11), instructing a zoom command (Figure 12) and based on an order of assigned priorities and based on a zoom command, selecting which of the text contents are to be displayed to provide a maximum amount of text information that may be displayed by a viewer or displaying more detailed information including year, duration, director, actors, and description as specific detailed information is displayed to the user when the zoom command is given (Figure 12) and selectively displaying, in the EPG information, the selected text contents or displaying the title, year, duration, director, actors, and description (Figure 12) without other data including theme data, critics rating which are provided with EPG data of the shows that are listed (Page 5, paragraph 0079-0082). It is necessarily included that text contents that are viewed in specific order have priorities assigned to them as the title is displayed at all times and has priority. Schein discloses a function to operate in conjunction with a recorder is provided (Figure 21), in an area in which EPG information of a program of which recording is associated with the recorder is displayed (Figures 21, 22, 23), recording condition information for the recorder is displayed so as to be superimposed on the EPG information (Figure 22, 302).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include a function to operate in conjunction with a recorder is provided (Figure 21), in an area in which EPG information of a program of which recording is associated with the recorder is displayed (Figures 21, 22, 23), recording condition information for the recorder is displayed so as to be superimposed on the EPG information (Figure 22, 302) as taught by Schein in order to assist the user with sorting through various programs (Page 1, paragraph 0006) as

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disclosed by Schein and to allow a user the ability to watch a program at a more convenient time by using the EPG to record a program to make it easier for the user as is well known in the art.

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout, Davis and Schein disclose all the limitations of Claim 16. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

12. Claims 18 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oosterhout in view of Davis and Schein as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Schein et al (US 6,133,909 and hereafter referred to as "Schein2").

Regarding Claim 18, Oosterhout, Davis and Schein disclose all the limitations of Claim 16. Schein discloses a function to operate in conjunction with a recorder is provided (Figure 21), in an area in which EPG information of a program of which recording is associated with the recorder is displayed (Figures 21, 22, 23), recording condition information for the recorder is displayed so as to be superimposed on the EPG information (Figure 23, 302). Oosterhout, Davis and Schein are silent on condition information of recording. Schein2 discloses that multiple recorders may exist whether digital or analog (Column 3, lines 36-43). Schein2 discloses that the user can choose which select the recording device (Column 5, lines 1-3). It is necessarily that condition

information for the recorder is information representing a type of the recorder.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the combination to include multiple recorders to select the type of recorder (Column 3, lines 36-43 and Column 5, lines 1-3) as taught by Schein2 in order to allow automatic unattended recording of one or more programs (Column 4, lines 63-67) as disclosed by Schein2.

Regarding Claim 24, Oosterhout, Davis, Schein and Schein2 disclose all the limitations of Claim 16. Oosterhout discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Figure 1, 25, Column 3, lines 18-37). Davis discloses a computer readable medium on which a program to cause a computer to perform all the steps of the EPG information display method (Column 20, lines 39-54).

Conclusion

13. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzana E. Hossain whose telephone number is 571-272-5943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

FEH
May 7, 2007


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PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER